

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

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TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2483

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIA: DECREASE IN FOREIGN-LANGUAGE BROADCASTING;
INCREASE IN VERNACULARS

1. BEGINNING TODAY (DECEMBER 30) RADIO ETHIOPIA IS ELIMINATING ITS EVENING ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BROADCASTS (7PM LOCAL) TO BE REPLACED BY ONE HOUR OROMO LANGUAGE (GALIGNA) BROADCAST. LUNCH TIME ENGLISH BROADCAST (1 PM LOCAL) WILL CONTINUE, BUT WILL BE DEVOTED TO EMPHASIS PROGRAMS CONSISTENT WITH "ETHIOPIA TIKDEM" PHILOSOPHY. FRENCH-LANGUAGE BROADCASTS TO BE DISCONTINUED ENTIRELY.

2. SOURCES IN MININFO STATE THAT VOA TAPES (INCLUDING MUSIC) WILL NO LONGER BE USED BY ETHIOPIAN BROADCASTING SERVICE. DECLINE IN USAGE ALREADY EVIDENT LAST FEW WEEKS, WITH REPLACEMENT BY SOCIALIST-ORIENTED PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CHINESE OPERA ON "PEOPLE' REVOLUTION."

3. ELIMINATION WESTERN-TYPE PROGRAMS ON TV VERY EVIDENT ENTIRE MONTH OF DECEMBER. PROGRAMS, E.G., HAWAII FIVE-O, STOREFRONT LAWYERS, VISION USA AND SCIENCE REPORT, REPLACED BY SHOWS EMPHASIZING DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SOCIALISM. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PROGRAMS TOTALLY ELIMINATED EXCEPT FOR SESAME STREET AND SUNDAY EVENING WORLD CUP SOCCER MATCHES.

4. RVOG INCREASING AMHARIC PROGRAMS BY ONE-HALF HOUR EACH DAY, AND STATION MANAGEMENT GIVEN GREEN LIGHT INITIATE PROGRAMS

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IN TIGRIGNA AND GALIGNA, WITH PMAC APPROVING PROGRAM CONTENT.

RVOG RELUCTANT BEGIN VERNACULAR PROGRAMS THIS WAY. RETURN TO ETHIOPIA OF RVOG'S NEGOTIATOR AND DECISION ON FUTURE OF STATION HERE NOW DEFERRED TO JANUARY '75 (CF ADDIS 14723).

5. MAJOR REPORT ON MEDIA DEVELOPMENTS BEING PREPARED IN MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS.

6. WOULD WELCOME READOUT THROUGH FBIS (IF FEASIBLE) OF NEW AROMO PROGRAMS.

DECON JANUARY 31, 1976.
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 30 DEC 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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